

STATEMENT OF WORK
Cultural Resources Identification Surveys
Maine

June 4, 2004

Contact Gary Shaffer, NRCS Archaeologist at 207-990-9566 or email concerns to gary.shaffer@me.usda.gov.

These deliverables apply to this individual practice. For other planned practice deliverables refer to those specific Statements of Work.

MAINE MODIFICATIONS

Date of Posting in eFOTG – May 19, 2004

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The deliverables listed below apply to this individual cultural resources compliance activity. For other planned cultural resources compliance deliverables, refer to those specific Statements of Work.

NOTE: NRCS retains responsibility for all decision-making and consultation required of Federal agencies related to compliance with several resources protection laws, including but not limited to the National Historic Preservation act (NHPA), the Endangered Species Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act. Technical Service Providers (TSPs) are expected to gather information to enable NRCS' compliance with the NHPA and must meet the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualification standards as specified in Section 112(a)(1)(A) of the Act and in the implementing regulations for section 106 of the NHPA at 36 CFR 800.2(a)(1) and 800.2(a)(3). Such TSPs shall be used in accordance with 36 CFR 800.2(a)(3) ("Use of contractors"). TSPs shall work with the program participants to ensure that all approvals, authorities, rights, permits, and easements necessary for conduct of this cultural resources activity have been obtained prior to implementation of the work.

References

- Archaeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines
- National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106
- 36 CFR 800; Protection of Historic Properties
- NRCS National Cultural Resources Procedures Handbook
- NRCS General Manual 420 Part 401
- NRCS National Environmental Compliance Handbook

Professional Qualification Standards

The principal investigator and anyone functioning as lead field investigator must meet the minimum professional qualifications listed in "Archaeology and Historic Preservation; Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines" for the type of services needed:

History

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Archaeology

Architectural History

Architecture

Historic Architecture

Identification Surveys

Identification surveys are conducted for the purpose of locating cultural resources within a project's area of potential effects (APE). These surveys consist of a number of activities which may be used independently or in combination with one another, as appropriate, for the level of investigation needed for the size and complexity of the project. All work must comply with Federal, Tribal, State, and local laws. The following is a list of survey activities:

Research Design Formulation

The research design should address, at a minimum, these topics:

1. Objectives
 - a. Delineate and inventory all cultural properties (archaeological, architectural, historical, traditional, as appropriate) in the APE;
 - b. Characterize and interpret all identified properties with respect to the cultural/temporal periods used by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission;
 - c. Appraise the results of the investigations in light of existing models of settlement patterning;
 - d. If sufficient data are available, evaluate NR eligibility;
 - e. Assess the undertaking's impacts on the identified properties; and
 - f. Determine the need for additional work.
2. Historic Context (classes of cultural resources likely to be found and brief descriptions of association prehistoric and/or historic periods)
3. Methods and techniques to be used to obtain information (e.g., archival research, informant interview, oral history, field survey, analytical procedures)
4. Expected Results

Upon drafting the research design, the TSP shall submit it to the Archaeologist/Cultural Resources Coordinator of Maine NRCS for approval.

Archival Research

Archival or background research is undertaken prior to any field survey. Possible sources include, but are not limited to, historical maps, atlases, tax records, deeds, photographs, ethnographies, the state preservation plan, SHPO/state archaeologist or other state site files, National Register of Historic Places, folk life documentation, oral histories, previous studies, local informants, local historical/archaeological societies.

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Field Survey

This section describes the survey that may be used to obtain information about cultural resources that may be present. The TSP may undertake a field survey only after receiving written approval of the research design from the Archaeologist/Cultural Resources Coordinator of Maine NRCS.

1. Survey documentation
 - a. Kinds of properties looked for
 - b. The boundary of area surveyed
 - c. The methods and techniques of survey (sampling considerations, pedestrian walkover, subsurface testing, photography, etc.)
 - d. Record of precise location of all properties identified
 - e. Information on the appearance, contents, significance, integrity and boundaries of each property
2. Special Techniques (e.g., remote sensing)

Deliverables

Report

Identification survey reports shall contain enough information to permit NRCS to make an informed decision and/or finding and for an outside party to understand the basis for that decision or finding. This report shall contain, at minimum, the following information with any appropriate illustrations:

1. Area researched or surveyed (i.e., undertaking's APE)
2. Research design (how and why certain methods were chosen)
3. Historic context (e.g., types of sites likely to be found), includes information gathered from archival and other background research conducted
4. Methods and techniques used (how were they carried out)
5. Results
 - a. Outcome of survey (cultural resources identified)
 - b. Analysis of any artifacts, features, structures, and other cultural properties
 - c. Recommendations for further actions
6. Completed inventory forms of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission for identified cultural resources
 - a. Maine Prehistoric Archaeological Site Survey Record
 - b. Maine Historic Archaeological Sites Inventory
 - c. Historic Building/Structure Survey Form

The TSP shall submit the report to the Archaeologist/Cultural Resources Coordinator of Maine NRCS, who will consult the SHPO/THPO and other parties, as appropriate.

Backup Data

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All field notes and illustrations not contained in the above report are the property of NRCS and shall be returned to NRCS as soon as possible after appropriate analysis is completed and the final report accepted.

Curation

Generally, all artifacts found during the identification survey are the property of the landowner and shall be returned to the landowner as soon as possible after appropriate analysis is completed and the final report is accepted by NRCS.